

USSN 09/054,911

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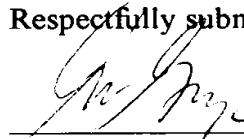
REMARKS:

The applicants wish to preserve the original filing date without Figure 6. Reference to Figure 6 in the specification has been cancelled.

As indicated in the original introduction to the drawings, Figure 6 was the same as Figure 5 but with an additional SiO_2 layer deposited on top of the SiN layer. It is believed that this additional figure is not necessary for an understanding of the invention in view of the description at the foot of page 11.

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Specification:

The paragraph at lines 14 and 15 on page 5 has been cancelled.

The paragraph on page 11, beginning at line 9 has been amended as follows:

- - In the a further embodiment, a lower refractive index overlying layer 20 of SiO₂ ($N \cong 1.46$) is deposited on top of the silicon nitride layer 15 ($N \cong 1.9$). The strength of the compensator is ~~adjusting~~ adjusted by varying the thickness of ~~the~~ this overlying SiO₂ layer 20. The change in $\Delta\lambda$ with oxide thickness is now approximately three times smaller than for an identical change in the thickness of the nitride layer 15. - -

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